Dear SouthPole-sium Registrants,

Our gathering will commence a month from today: Friday, May 1st.

Our numbers now stand at 62. I expect that in the end we might have close to 70 attendees.

Most questions that you might have have probably answered somewhere on the website: http://www.antarctic-circle.org/gathering2.htm

Nonetheless, here are a number of points for your information and consideration.

• The SouthPole-sium is highly organized up to the start of festivities. Once Friday arrives things may get a bit hectic and casual. It’s up to all of us participate and help out and "go with the flow." There is a schedule of sorts (below) but no one can say for certain when you might get your chance to give a talk, at least not yet. And remember talks are to be limited to 15 minutes.

Here’s the schedule at the moment, subject to change. It’s taken from the Home Page at http://www.antarctic-circle.org/gathering2.htm

FRIDAY (1 May 2015)
Registration, informal discussions, socializing during morning and afternoon, for early arrivals. Help with setting up appreciated ("penguin placing," etc.)
Reception commencing at 6:00/18:00 at Lunga House outside—weather permitting—or inside if not.
Opening of the SouthPole-sium at 7:00/19:00 by Colin Lindsey-MacDougal, Laird of Lunga, introduced by Falcon Scott. The Laird will give a short commentary on Lunga House, the Estate and Craobh Haven. The Opening will be followed by a barbecue.
Possibly some sort of entertainment; perhaps by one or more of the attendees. Perhaps some traditional Scottish music. Any volunteers? Show & Tell

SATURDAY (2 May 2015)
9:00 Welcome by the sponsors. 'Housekeeping' items. Roundtable: Attendees introduce themselves and their interests extensively (throughout morning). Followed—if time—by start of short presentations, book launch(es).
12:30 Lunch. Sandwiches, etc.
1:30/13:30 Afternoon. Expanded talk (up to 40 minutes) on Scotland in the Antarctic by Bob Headland. Followed by short presentations (up to 15 minutes) through the end of the day, some moderated.
6:00/18:00 Evening. Reception followed by the Banquet, concluding with a variety of tom foolery and entertainment. Short after-dinner talk by Bob Burton The Strange and Awful History of Scurvy. Perhaps a
short auction (see below).

**SUNDAY** (3 May 2015)
9:30 Continuation of Saturday's short presentations and discussions including one or more moderated sessions. Book launch(es).
12:30 Lunch.
1:30/13:30 Continuation of short presentations and discussions including one or more moderated sessions. Book launch(es).
Perhaps a short excursion of some sort near the end of the day.
Drinks and something to eat at The Lord of the Isles pub down in the village (cost not included in registration).

**MONDAY** (4 May 2015, Bank Holiday)
9:30 Continuation of Sunday's short presentations and discussions including one or more moderated sessions.
12:30 Lunch. Sandwiches, etc., followed by wrap-up discussions and farewells.
The SouthPole-sium will formally adjourn by 3:00/15:00, though many attendees will still be present and can do as they please.

- There are some **Opportunities** for helping out at the SouthPole-sium:
  - Cathy Cooper is helping out on **photography**. Anyone interested in shooting some **video**?
  - Jackie Burton and Wendy Driver are assisting during **Registration** (not much involved here: picking up your conference packet and paying any outstanding charges).
  - **Audio-visual** help would be greatly appreciated; someone who knows how to get PCs and Macs to work with computer projectors. Also the sound systems which is being rented.
  - Having one or more people to keep an eye on the "book room" would be helpful. This is where booksellers will have some of their wares and some of you your duplicates to sell or trade. There might be some items on display. This room will be locked some of the time but open at others.
  - We'll need a **Quizmaster** for the Scotland Quiz scoring at the Saturday night Banquet.
  - And an **Auctioneer** for our Banquet Auction—perhaps one of our booksellers.
  - And are any **Musicians** coming? We could certainly have a song or two on Saturday night. Any suggestion for an "Antarctic Song" we could all sing together? If so, make some copies and bring them along.

- All are welcome to bring Polar books and any other Antarcticana to 1) show; 2) sell; 3) trade. We will have tables set up in the "Book Room" but if anything else is needed, bring it along.

- We will have an **Auction**, probably not very long, at the Saturday night Banquet. Bring an item or two. Could be books, artifacts, Antarcticana of some sort. Proceeds to support the SouthPole-sium or the donor or a 50-50 split.

- If you are among those shown on the Registration page ([http://www.antarctic-](http://www.antarctic-)

circle.org/gathering2-registered.htm) who have no Accommodation shown after their names, please e-mail me where you are staying once you know. I will add it. This is useful for others trying to coordinate transport, etc.

• At the top of each page on the website is a link to Logistics & Sharing (http://www.antarctic-circle.org/gathering2-logistics.htm). If you need transport or can offer transport between Glasgow and Craobh Haven or between Oban and Craobh Haven or between any place and Craobh Haven, let me know and I’ll add it here and include a contact e-address.

• Have a look at the Blog (http://www.antarctic-circle.org/gathering2-blog.htm). You will learn about some of our attendees, their interests and backgrounds. And if you are looking for transport or to share accommodation, you might find some ideas here.

• The Subjects of Talks proposed so far are listed at http://www.antarctic-circle.org/gathering2-subject.htm. Arrangement first alphabetically by speaker, then by broad subject: 1) Authors of or about recent books or works-in-progress; 2) Otherwise book-related; 3) History; and 4) Other. If all of these talks are given and if the speakers stick to 15 minutes, we’ll have 8-1/2 hours of talks. There’s about 12 available hours less breaks, etc., leaving about 10 hours; so there is sufficient time for everyone to have their say. At the first SouthPole-sium some of the short talks actually ended up being given on the first morning during the "roundtable" introductions.

• If you haven't proposed a talk but would like to make some sort of presentation, have a look at http://www.antarctic-circle.org/gathering2-subjectideas.htm for some ideas.

• If you want to project images during your talk, preferably send your images to me beforehand, either by e-mail, on a disk, or via Dropbox or similar. These might be individual images or a pdf or a PowerPoint or Keynote file. If you do this, it will give me an opportunity to make sure all will work on my laptop and projector. You can also bring a presentation on a thumbdrive or on a disk for use with my laptop (a Macbook Air running Yosemite). And you can also bring your own laptop. If so, make certain that you have all necessary cords and dongles. The versions I have on my laptop include: PowerPoint (v 11.6.4, v 14.4.8), Keynote (v. 4.0.4, v 5.0.5, v 6.5.2) and Adobe Acrobat Professional (v 8.3.1).

• Any attendee who has a Computer Projector and is able to bring it with them, this would be useful and much appreciated as a back-up is always worth having.

• Falcon is trying to locate a 35mm Projector (Kodak Carousel or similar) just in case anyone comes with 35mm slides. If any attendee has such a projector and can conveniently bring it, please let me know.

• The Saturday morning Roundtable is important and seemed to work well at the first SouthPole-sium. It's more than just a round of introductions ("I'm Joe Smith from London"). There might be some short ones like that but what's encouraged is a full description of your Antarctic interests and beyond. How did you get interested? Are you working on any Polar Projects? What's your greatest treasure? What questions do you have for those attending? You get the idea. Others are free to raise questions as we go. This may take up the entire morning
but it's a good way for everyone to get to know who's present and who they might seek out later during the weekend.

- We'd like to have at least one **Moderated Session**. This could be a panel or one person who poses questions to the group for discussion and back-and-forth. Last time we focused on the question "What to do with your collection when you're on the way out?" Some possibilities for this time around: Antarctican collecting today; Antarctic books yet to be written; Overlooked Antarcticans; My greatest Antarctic treasure. Any ideas?

- We'd like to have a **Book Launch**. Some will talk about books that they have written or are writing or hope to write, but at the moment no one has proposed to actually *launch* a new book and to sell and sign it. Any takers? (Actually Mike Tarver hopes to have his book out in time for a launch. Let's hope so. His book: a biography of Surgeon Captain Edward Leicester Atkinson (1881-1929) "Antarctic Explorer & War Hero—The man who found Captain Scott."

- We are having a few **Contests**. (These are described at http://www.antarctic-circle.org/gathering2.htm) Here's an update:
  - Haiku Contest (13 entries from 3 attendees) http://www.antarctic-circle.org/gathering2-haiku.htm
  - Limerick Contest (2 entries from 2 attendees) http://www.antarctic-circle.org/gathering2-limerick.htm
  - Fiction Contest (2 entries from 2 attendees) http://www.antarctic-circle.org/gathering2-fiction.htm
  - Penguin Contest (1 entry from 1 attendee) http://www.antarctic-circle.org/gathering2-penguin.htm

  How will winners be chosen? Four ballots will be included in your conference packet. There will be a display of the entries at Lunga House and attendees can vote for their choice in each category. Submissions may be made up until 2pm, Saturday, 2 May. Winners will be announced at the Banquet and valuable prizes will be given!

  We encourage you to make submissions to the contests beforehand so they can be posted on the website.

- You can submit up to three of your favorite **Antarctic Photos** which will be shown at the Banquet. The sooner you submit them, the better. They will be put on the website. These can be e-mailed to me as attachments.

The next update will probably be in mid-April depending on what new information comes to light or what changes develop. At some point I will be e-mailing you asking for your **Menu Choice** for the Banquet. (I am awaiting descriptions of the options from Lunga House.)

That's about it for now. If you have any questions or concerns, let me know.

Regards,
We thank those who are co-sponsoring the SouthPole-sium: Don Webster (New Zealand), Janice Tipping (England), Maggs Bros. Booksellers (England), Kingsbridge Books (Paul Davies, England), Meridian Rare Books (Stuart Leggatt, England).

The Antarctic Circle
Robert B. Stephenson, FRGS, Coordinator
Mail: P. O. Box 435, Jaffrey, NH 03452-0435 USA
Library: 8 Main Street, Jaffrey, NH.
Home Tel: 603-532-6066
Library Tel: 603-532-POLE (7653)
Alternate e-mail if difficulties: rob@rs41.org
The Antarctic Circle: www.antarctic-circle.org
SouthPole-sium v.2 in Scotland, 1-4 May 2015
http://www.antarctic-circle.org/gathering2.htm
Facebook: www.facebook.com/theantarcticcircle

This e-mail was sent to those registered as of March 31, 2015:

Dr. William Barr
Sandra Benttinen
Ted Benttinen
John & Sue Bonham
Joan Boothe
Brad Borkan
Bob & Jackie Burton
John Button
Larry Conrad
Cathy Cooper
Regina Daly
Paul Davies
Richard Dehmel
Suzy Dehmel
Wendy Driver
Joe & Beth Fitzsimmons
Kellie Gutman
Richard J.S. Gutman
Bob Headland
Bernadette Hince
David Hirzel
Eric Jarvis
Alison Jolley
Kevin Kenny
Donald Kerr
Valerie Kerr
Geir O. Kløver
Duncan Lawie
Meg Macleod
Rosalind Marsden
Jim and Geraldine McAdam
Norena McAdam
Cathy Corbishley Michel
Geoff Michel
Gary Paine
Mick Parker
Alan Payne
Jean & Pascale Pimental
Trevor Potts
Patrick Quilty
Michael Rosove / Sheila Pressman
Falcon Scott
Lucy Scott
Ann Savours Shirley
Philip Sidney
Judy Skelton
Marjory Spoerri
Robert B. Stephenson
Anne Strathie
Seamus Taaffe
Mike Tarver
Ken Thomas
Fuchsia Voremberg
Isobel & David Williams
David Wilson